

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 012320

FOR LUERS FROM ANDREWS--REPLY FOR EUR/EE, EUR/SOV ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR DAS LUERS

1. HERE ARE OUR COMMENTS ON THE BIB DRAFTED TELEGRAM CONCERNING "RIGHT OF REPLY TO RFE/RL BROADCASTS" (SEPTTEL).
 2. YOU WILL RECALL THAT ON NOVEMBER 17 GRONOUSKI RAISED WITH YOU THE IDEA OF GIVING "EQUAL AIR TIME" TO THE SOVIETS AND OTHERS TO RESPOND TO CHARGES MADE BY THE RADIOS WHICH THEY FIND OBJECTIONABLE. IN OUR VIEW THE GUIDANCE OFFERED IN THIS TELEGRAM (PARAS 5-8 OF THE BIB DRAFT) GOES BEYOND THE SPECIFIC CONCEPT GRONOUSKI DISCUSSED WITH YOU. IN PARTICULAR, WE WONDER ABOUT CONDITIONING THE GRANTING OF EQUAL TIME ON CESSATION OF JAMMING. WE ALSO QUESTION HOW DIRECTLY OUR POSTS SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN PASSING SOVIET AND EE COMPLAINTS BACK TO THE BIB.
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PAGE 02 STATE 012320

BESIDES TENDING TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE BIB-DEPARTMENT RELATIONSHIP, THE PROCEDURES OUTLINED MIGHT SERVE MERELY AS A FORMAL INVITATION FOR SOVIETS AND OTHERS TO COMPLAIN (AS IF THEY NEEDED ONE.)

3. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THIS WITH WALTER ROBERTS, AND HE KNOWS WE ARE CONTACTING YOU. WALTER POINTS OUT THAT THE

LANGUAGE FOR THE BIB ANNUAL REPORT (PARA 3 OF BIB DRAFT)

IS APPROVED AND FIRM, BUT HE SAYS BIB CAN BE FLEXIBLE
ON THE MODALITIES.

4. PLEASE SEND US YOUR CLEARANCE/COMMENTS ASAP. CHRISTOPHER

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